

4th ICLDC: Summary for NSF

The 4th International Conference on Language Documentation & Conservation (ICLDC) took place in Honolulu, Hawai'i from February 26 to March 1, 2015. The conference, sponsored in part by the National Science Foundation Documenting Endangered Languages program (award 1405434), is the latest in a biennial series highlighting efforts to document and revitalize the world's endangered linguistic diversity.

The 4th ICLDC attracted nearly 500 international registrants, and featured 215 talks and posters on the theme of "Enriching Theory, Practice, and Application," which highlights the need to strengthen the links between linguistic theory, language documentation practice, and classroom language teaching methods. The conference featured four Special Sessions on Pedagogy in Language Conservation and twelve Master Classes on topics in linguistics, all of which were made possible with support from NSF. In addition, the NSF sponsored six travel scholarships for the top-rated abstracts by graduate students and members of endangered language communities.

Highlights of the conference include: plenary addresses by Dr. Lenore Grenoble (U Chicago) and Dr. Anthony Woodbury (U Texas); presentations by researchers from the University of Alaska Fairbanks on the incorporation of caribou butchering vocabulary into Gwich'in language learning initiatives; several presentations on endangered sign languages from Hawai'i, Peru, the Caribbean, and Nigeria; a talk on the use of *Harry Potter* in teaching Cook Islands Māori; and a series of talks on childhood and teenage acquisition of Australian Indigenous languages.

The ICLDC series is hosted biennially by the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where the Department of Linguistics specializes in the documentation and conservation of endangered languages. The 4th ICLDC was chaired by Dr. Andrea Berez, Dr. Victoria Anderson (U Hawai'i Department of Linguistics), and Jim Yoshioka (National Foreign Language Resource Center).